

## **SECTION 7: PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

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## 7.0 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of this plan must be done strategically and incrementally to maximize the potential benefits from efforts expended. This section is meant to provide guidance on setting priorities amongst the numerous maintenance actions and projects described in previous sections of this document. Maintenance and specific projects are treated separately – the former is ongoing, while the latter involves initial implementation directed toward a particular landscape element or area. Over time, the bulk of landscape will shift into the category of ongoing maintenance. To further distinguish among aspects of implementation work, natural and developed landscapes are treated separately, reflecting the different criteria appropriate to use in setting priorities.

### 7.1 Ongoing Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance consists of the regular maintenance activities that are necessary to simply keep the Park in its current state. The work encompassed by these activities is performed by DPR staff or by paid workers under contract with SPMP. This work includes things like mowing grass, taking care of landscape beds in the Historic District, removing hazard trees after a windstorm, pruning, mulching beds, mowing and weeding of the Fin Project, and mowing meadows in the natural areas. There may be some opportunities for volunteer involvement and stewardship within the framework of ongoing maintenance activities. For example: habitat islands in the Fin Project may be adopted and taken care of by a volunteer group; specific landscape beds in the Historic District could be adopted by citizens in the transitional housing at SPMP who would weed and water them; pruning of specific areas could be done annually by students in local Horticulture programs at Edmonds Community College and/or Lake Washington Vocational Technical College.

#### 7.1.1 Natural Area Landscapes

Maintenance in the natural areas of the Park consists generally of the following: mowing of meadow areas, removal of hazard trees, mowing and weeding of the Fin Project, care of previously implemented planting projects, and limited control and eradication of invasive and noxious weeds. This maintenance is currently done by SPMP staff and paid contractors, with significant contributions of time from volunteers for the last two actions. As implementation of specific projects proceeds, expanding the volunteer base to help with the stewardship of newly planted areas will be critical to the success of these projects. Ensuring adequate stewardship prior to project implementation is strongly recommended.

#### ***Prioritization of Actions***

The following maintenance actions in natural areas should be HIGH priority:

- 1) Contain thickets of non-native woody species by establishing and maintaining boundaries of invasion.

- 2) Mow upland meadows and meadow in savanna areas in September to keep woody species and weedy herbaceous species from becoming established.
- 3) Maintain already implemented planting projects.

The table below lists the landscape zones and management areas where high priority maintenance actions should occur.

**Table 7.1 High Priority Maintenance for Natural Areas**

<b>Landscape Zone</b>	<b>Management Area</b>	<b>Action</b>
Habitat	Upland Meadow	meadow mowing, thicket containment
	Tree/Shrub Savannah	meadow mowing, thicket containment
Shoreline	Upland Meadow	meadow mowing, thicket containment
	Tree/Shrub Savannah	meadow mowing, thicket containment
Promontory Point	Upland Meadow	meadow mowing (particularly in the NW meadow)
	Upland Forest	maintain perimeter plantings already in place
Forest Remnant	Open Forest Margin	meadow mowing
Community Activity Center	Tree/Shrub Savannah	meadow mowing
Sportsfields	Upland Meadow	meadow mowing

#### 7.1.2 Developed Landscapes

Maintenance in the developed landscape areas of the Park consists generally of the following: mowing of turf, other turf care (aerating, fertilizing, etc.), watering of beds, mulching, pruning, and weeding and invasive control. This maintenance is currently done by SPMP staff and SCC. Volunteers could be included in some maintenance in these areas if associated with new project implementation.

#### ***Prioritization of Actions***

The following maintenance actions in developed areas should be HIGH priority:

- 1) Monitor inventory-identified, potentially hazardous trees with target(s), and provide appropriate follow-up mitigation.
- 2) Apply and annually replenish organic mulch in established planting beds and around bases of trees.
- 3) Remove weeds climbing up or engulfing ornamental plants.
- 4) Contain invasive plant spread within current (or as feasible, reduced) areas, and cut back during growing season before seeds mature.
- 5) Provide training pruning for juvenile trees, to establish good structural framework.

**Table 7.2 High Priority Maintenance for Developed Landscape**

<b>Landscape Zone</b>	<b>Management Area</b>	<b>Action</b>
Historic District	North Shore Recreation	Invasives containment & cutting back
	Aircraft Industrial	Invasives containment, training pruning
	Historic District Core	Weeding established beds, mulching, monitoring & abating tree hazards
	Officer's Row	Weeding & mulching beds, invasives control along east edge
	Golf Greensward	Invasives control @ south end
	Sand Point Way	Monitoring & abating tree hazards, mulching base of trees
Sand Pt. E. Housing		Meadow mowing, invasives containment, pruning apples

## **7.2 Specific Projects**

The implementation of specific projects at SPMP should always be overseen by DPR staff at SPMP and the DPR Urban Forestry Program (when appropriate). Specific projects include things like meadow restoration at Promontory Point, replacement planting done in concert with invasive removal, planting the grassy islands in the south parking lot with trees and shrubs, and renovating or restoring specific elements of the historic landscape in the Historic District. Volunteer stewardship can and should be a significant part of this type of work at SPMP.

### 7.2.1 Natural Area Landscapes

In the natural areas throughout the Park, the general and common theme of most of the specific projects is the removal and replacement of invasive plant species with natives, and the supplementation or enhancement of existing habitat. This work should proceed to focus high priority on containment of the most rapidly spreading invasives, removal of those that are the least established but potentially threatening, and removal/reduction of those that can be removed most easily for the greatest habitat benefits. In addition, the most intact habitats, and those that provide the greatest benefit to the greatest variety of species or wildlife guilds should be targeted for protection and enhancement measures to keep them that way. Finally, projects that are good candidates for outside funding or grant money should be high priority as well. Lowest priority should be given to those areas that are the most compromised and will require the highest level of effort to restore to quality habitat. These areas should be addressed with removal/control and replanting efforts with an expectation of a high level of initial effort followed by extensive long-term continuing care. All other areas that do not meet the criteria for either the highest or lowest level of attention are moderate priority.

Specific projects with Zones and Management Areas identified are listed in Tables 7.2 and 7.3 below for high and low priority levels.

### ***Project Prioritization***

#### ***High Priority Projects***

The most immediate and focused attention should be directed at those existing habitats within SPMP that are the least compromised and those that have the highest value or the highest potential value. More specifically, these habitats include riparian, wetland and aquatic habitats, and upland forest. Projects that fall under the first of the two categories described below should be implemented as soon as possible. They do not require large capital expenditure, but have substantial positive habitat benefits. Projects that fall under the second category are dependent on more substantial initial implementation capital, and although they are high priority, may not be as immediately possible for budgetary reasons.

- 1) Removals of invasive non-native species from areas with low levels of invasion that exhibit characteristics of relatively intact and high wildlife value plant communities. Removals of non-native invasives that are relatively easy to remove and result in significant positive benefits to the targeted habitats.
- 2) Restoration of habitats that are of the highest value, regardless of existing level of degradation.

**Table 7.3 High Priority Projects for Natural Areas**

<b>Landscape Zone</b>	<b>Management Area</b>	<b>Project</b>
Habitat	Upland Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar throughout all forest areas</li><li>• Removal and replacement of all other non-native invasives</li></ul> <p>No specific forest patches are identified as higher priority than others. All patches that meet the criteria for high priority projects are good candidates for immediate action.</p>
	Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar in all wetlands and adjacent buffers</li><li>• Control of non-native invasives (yellow iris, purple loosestrife, Japanese knotweed)</li><li>• Enhancement of wetland buffers to link wetlands across the landscape with forest</li></ul>
	Wetland Mosaic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar in all areas of mosaic</li><li>• Removal and replacement of non-native hawthorn in all areas of mosaic</li></ul>
	Non-native Shrub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Removal and replacement of thickets in wetland buffers</li><li>• Removal and replacement of thickets in between forest patches to promote linkage between isolated patches and increase forest patch size</li></ul>

Habitat	Tree/Shrub Savannah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar in all areas of savanna</li> </ul>
Shoreline	Nearshore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar along edge of shoreline</li> <li>• Removal of knotweed, yellow iris, blackberry and other shrub and herb layer invasives</li> <li>• Restoration of littoral zone substrate and shoreline edge (starting at far north end)</li> </ul>
	Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and control of yellow iris and purple loosestrife</li> <li>• Enhancement of buffer with control of invasives and planting of appropriate natives</li> </ul>
	Non-native Shrub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of thickets east of the promenade in conjunction with shoreline edge and nearshore restoration</li> <li>• Removal of and replacement of pyracantha north of swimming beach</li> </ul>
	Tree/Shrub Savannah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar in all areas of savanna</li> </ul>
Promontory Point	Upland Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and control of invasives on east-facing slopes above Kingfisher Basin (ivy in trees and cliffs)</li> <li>• Removal and control of invasives on north-facing slope and bench of west ridge</li> <li>• Removal and control of invasives on west-facing slope of central N-S- ridge</li> <li>• Removal and control of Japanese knotweed on north slope of central N-S ridge</li> </ul>
Community Activity Center	Tree/Shrub Savannah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar in all areas of savanna</li> </ul>
Dog Off Leash	Upland Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of non-native poplar in all areas of forest</li> <li>• Removal and control of shrub and herb layer invasives throughout</li> </ul>
Forest Remnant	North Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal and replacement of non-native trees (poplar, London plane, horse chestnut, Norway maple, birch, hawthorn, mountain ash) in all areas of forest</li> <li>• Removal and control of shrub and herb layer invasives throughout</li> </ul>
	South Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of perimeter protection of area with fencing, dense edge plantings</li> <li>• Restoration of vegetation to central, construction-damaged strip: prep area, add trees &amp; understory</li> <li>• Removal and control of shrub and herb layer invasives throughout, principally at periphery</li> </ul>

### *Low Priority Projects*

Projects given lowest priority are in severely infested or compromised areas, and which also may not possess high potential value even if they were intact. These projects have higher implementation and maintenance costs, as well as protracted labor requirements. These projects are also unlikely to receive or qualify for outside funding or grants. Although these project areas fall within the Park and deserve responsible stewardship, faced with the reality of budgetary constraints and the magnitude of the task at hand, it is useful to differentiate between the highest value projects and those that are less likely to fulfill Plan goals. At SPMP these projects are located in the Non-native Shrub and Tree/Shrub Savannah Management Areas in three of the landscape Zones. The main project components are the same in all of these areas – remove severe infestations of invasives, particularly of non-native shrubs (blackberry and Scot's broom thickets) and replace with natives.

**Table 7.4 Low Priority Projects for Natural Areas**

<b>Landscape Zone</b>	<b>Management Area</b>	<b>Project</b>
Habitat	Non-native Shrub	• Removal and replacement of thickets in all areas that are not wetland buffers or in between forest patches
	Tree/Shrub Savannah	• Removal and replacement of thickets • Removal of non-native hawthorn
Shoreline	Non-native Shrub	• Removal and replacement of thickets inland of the promenade that are not in wetland buffer
	Tree/Shrub Savannah	• Removal and replacement of non-natives other than poplar
Promontory Point	Non-native Shrub	• Removal and replacement of thickets around perimeter edges of the Zone

### 7.2.2 Developed Landscapes

In developed landscapes of the Park, the general and common themes of implementation projects are hazard abatement, renovation, and improved care of the landscape, particularly in the context of historic integrity. Project priorities should address the most pressing problems first, and focus resources on rehabilitation of the most important historic landscape elements. These actions are often closely linked.

### ***Project Prioritization***

#### *High Priority Projects*

- 1) Systematically abate Historic District tree hazards by initiating a program for tree removal and in-kind replacement, corrective pruning, and regular hazard condition monitoring. Deal first with trees that meet all of the following criteria:

- Identified by 2001 inventory as possessing both defects and potential targets.
- Identified as “Historic Landscape Features to be Preserved and Maintained” in Table 2-3 of the 1998 Sand Point HPRP Plan.
- Located in highest use and/or visibility areas of the Park.

Based on these criteria, top attention should be given to:

- Historic District Zone, Sand Point Way MA : entire row of trees
- Historic District Zone, Historic District Core MA: Deodara cedars along both sides of 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE, white spruce off SE corner of Building 25, atlas cedar on NW corner of 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE and NE 74<sup>th</sup> Street

Problem trees in the following areas also should receive priority attention, but with somewhat less urgency than those called out immediately above because their usage level is lower:

- Historic District Zone, Golf Greensward MA
- Historic District Zone, Officer’s Row MA

Program components should include all elements described below:

- Full hazard evaluation of all trees in above-described populations, performed by a certified arborist in accordance with current ISA standards.
- Development of a detailed, tree-by-tree removal, pruning, health enhancement, monitoring and replacement schedule, coordinated to achieve maximum possible continuity of historic landscape character while meeting hazard mitigation mandate in prudent time period.
- Review and approval by DPR Senior Urban Forester and designated Sand Point Historic Preservation Coordinator before implementation begins. SHPO Consultation (Level C Review per HPRP Plan) automatically will be required for “Removal of a significant landscape feature (listed in Table 2-3).” Selective removal of portions of a feature, such as individual hazard trees, may not meet this threshold; however, if the ultimate intent is to undertake substantial replacement, full SHPO Consultation is needed.
- Timely implementation: Hazard tree mitigation pruning, removals and replacement planting should be undertaken as quickly as possible, with phasing correlated to the risk to which SPMP users are exposed. Full program should be operational within two years of VMP adoption.
- Implementation documentation: Develop and maintain vegetation management records, linked to and building upon 2001 Historic District Tree Inventory database. Include dates and specific nature of all tree work as it is accomplished: pruning, removal, planting, and establishment care (training pruning, mulching, watering, stake removal). Although primarily intended to serve as a management tool for SPMP facilities staff, progress reports should be generated at least twice annually for the duration of project implementation, for review by DPR Senior Urban Forester, Sand Point HPO, and if involved, Washington SHPO. Thereafter, routine



maintenance records need not be circulated externally. This documentation system could readily be expanded in time, to encompass tree and landscape management activities throughout the Historic District or larger Park areas.

- 2) Renovate and/or reinstate historic plantings, starting with key contributing historic landscape features identified in the HPRP Plan, as well as landscape vestiges that remain substantially intact elsewhere in the Historic District. With the exception of the rose garden formerly located south of Building 26S, reconstruction of lost historic plantings and creation of entirely new ones, however desirable, rank lower in priority because no historic fabric is at risk. Top implementation projects include:

Historic District Zone: Officer's Row MA – Front entry landscaping associated with Buildings 330,331 & 332 (Historic Landscape Feature 14), with related side and rear yard plantings as a secondary priority. Project will entail:

- Completing a detailed review of original archived planting plans, making necessary palette adjustments to exchange taxa that are inappropriate due to invasiveness or severe cultural problems for suitable taxa of similar character. To the maximum extent possible, original species should be retained and alternate species chosen from the appended Sand Point historic plants list.
- Evaluating all plant material remaining on site for appropriate disposition or treatment (pruning, renovation, removal, replacement), based on whether plants are original varieties or later additions, whether they can be restored to or maintained in good condition at appropriate scale, and whether or not they are healthy, non-invasive taxa.
- Submitting restoration plan and plant list to Sand Point HPC for advance review and approval, incorporating all modifications directed.
- Reviewing plan with tenant agencies to inform them about project and encourage their active participation in its execution and long-term care, recognizing that the landscape may provide positive program opportunities for the residents they serve.
- Undertaking careful, horticulturally-supervised plant removal and site preparation (edging beds, amending soil), irrigation work (if needed), existing plant pruning and fertilization, plant installation following approved plan, mulching and watering.
- Make and keep in SPMP archive for future reference as-built documents that show any changes from design plan and provide a final plant list and count.
- Provide and document details of establishment care for three seasons, including adequate watering, weed control, dead plant replacement, mulch replenishment and training pruning. Ideally, utilize a maintenance calendar database to schedule and record establishment care activities as they are completed.

Historic District Zone: Historic District Core MA – Reconstruction of lost Rose Garden (Historic Landscape Feature 18). Project will entail:

- Investigate site for vestige bed, walk and plant locations; make base record drawing.
- Search available offsite archives for historic garden plan and plant list. If found, assess rose varieties for appropriateness in context of contemporary landscape sustainability requirements (notably disease and pest resistance, hardiness). Substitute superior varieties for highly-problematic ones. If no primary documents exist, seek information from residents familiar with the garden, and select roses from types known to be available in the 1930-1970 time period. Consult with knowledgeable local rosarians.
- Develop garden reconstruction plan for review and approval of HPC. Authenticity of bed and path configurations and materials are primary, exact rose placement and varieties less so. It is likely that the original garden featured hybrid tea-type roses.
- Install hardscape elements, conserving original material where vestiges remain, and provide low-trajectory irrigation to bed areas.
- Prepare soil deeply and amend thoroughly, then plant roses, mulch and water.
- Provide and document establishment maintenance, as described above. Adjacent building tenants may likewise be engaged in project installation or aftercare activities.
- Develop and execute a strategy for long-term upkeep of garden; SPMP grounds staff cannot be expected to provide all required care for this garden, due to its anticipated maintenance needs (particularly annual pruning and disease control).

Additional important renovation projects are listed below; these should follow essentially the same steps outlined above for Officer's Row. Some may be amenable to incremental execution using volunteers, focusing on one or two steps at a time, or on certain bed areas start-to-finish. All, however, should proceed only after careful evaluation of existing plantings for fidelity to archived plans, and based on HDC-approved restoration plans. In some cases, recently-planted material incompatible with the style and palette of the Historic District's period of significance may need to be removed. Such plants might appropriately be incorporated elsewhere in the Park. Project sites include:

Historic District Zone: Historic District Core MA – Foundation plantings fronting/surrounding Buildings 9, 25, 29, 138, 47. Amongst these, the most intact and highly-visible should be restored first.

Historic District Zone: Aircraft Industrial MA – Foundation plantings surrounding Building 2 (Hangar).

- 3) Remove and control invasive species and replace with appropriate plantings. Implementation priority amongst sites should be given to identified Historic Landscape Features not already taken care of through preceding projects. For specific recommendations on replacement plantings and removal techniques, refer to individual MA treatment types (Section 5) and management and maintenance practices (Section 6).

Historic District Zone: Golf Greensward MA – predominately south end of area (Historic Landscape Feature 19).

Historic District Zone: Historic District Core MA – foundation beds around Contributing Buildings.

Historic District Zone: Aircraft Industrial MA – west of buildings, visible from Sand Point Way.

Historic District Zone: North Shore Recreation MA – unmanaged upland areas visible from Sand Point Way.

Sand Point East Housing Zone – where infestations threaten adjacent native or historic landscape areas, predominantly along south edge of zone.